

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1           1. (currently amended) A top loading fixed length line  
2 trimmer head for string trimmer machines using line segments of a  
3 predetermined length including in combination:

4           a central generally cylindrical hub having an upper end  
5 and a lower end, with the upper end thereof configured for  
6 attachment to a drive shaft of a string trimmer machine;

7           a circular flange, having a top surface and a bottom  
8 surface, attached adjacent the lower end of the central hub and  
9 extending outwardly therefrom, with the hub extending upwardly from  
10 the top surface of the flange, the circular flange having at least  
11 one trimmer line exit opening on the circumference thereof;

12           line guide means on the circular flange between the line  
13 exit opening and an opening on the top surface of the flange; and

14           at least one line end termination aperture on the top  
15 surface of the circular flange offset from the line guide means;  
16 and

17           means for effecting frictional engagement between the  
18 line guide means and ~~the hub or a~~ the line end termination  
19 ~~aperture on the top surface of the circular flange offset from the~~  
20 ~~line guide means.~~

21  
22           2. (cancelled)

23           3. (cancelled)

24           4. (cancelled)

1 5. (Amended) The trimmer head according to Claim 3 17 wherein  
2 the at least one trimmer line exit opening includes spaced exit  
3 openings located on the circular flange, and the sets of line  
4 termination apertures include at least two line termination  
5 apertures of different sizes associated with each of the line exit  
6 openings.

7 6. (Amended) The trimmer head according to Claim 5 wherein  
8 ~~the hub has a longitudinal axis, further including at least the~~  
9 ~~offset shoulder includes~~ two diametrically opposed longitudinal  
10 flanges on the central hub extending generally parallel to the  
11 longitudinal axis of the central hub and wherein the line  
12 termination apertures are located in the longitudinal flanges.

13 7. (original) The trimmer head according to Claim 6 wherein  
14 the line termination apertures extend through the longitudinal  
15 flanges.  
16

17 8. (withdrawn)

18 9.. (withdrawn)

19 10. (cancelled)

20 11. (cancelled)

21 12. (cancelled)

22 13. (cancelled)

23 14. (withdrawn)

24 15. (withdrawn)

25 16. (withdrawn)

17. (new) A top loading fixed length line trimmer head for string trimmer machines using line segments of predetermined length including in combination:

a central cylindrical hub having an upper end and a lower end and configured for attachment to a drive shaft of a string trimmer machine, the central hub further having a longitudinal axis and an offset shoulder thereon;

a circular flange attached to and extending outwardly from the lower end of the central hub, the flange having at least one trimmer line exit opening on the circumference thereof;

sets of line termination apertures of different sizes on the shoulder of the hub extending generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of the hub and axially offset from the trimmer line exit openings for insertion and termination of an end of a length of trimmer line therein; and

a line guide means on the flange located between the at least one line exit opening and the line termination apertures to direct lengths of trimmer line from the line termination apertures to the at least one line exit opening.